

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, first, I want to express my appreciation to the gentleman from Rhode Island. As he said, we make every effort to ensure that the support for the men and women who serve in the military is on a bipartisan basis. The gentleman from Rhode Island is a key leader on a number of those issues, whether it is cyber, directed energy, and a host of others.

I appreciate all of the Members on both sides of the aisle who have spoken. That bipartisan support is what helped lead us to pass the House version of this bill by the biggest majority in 8 years. That does not mean we agree on everything, obviously, but when it comes to supporting the military, their interests are first, and I think we need to keep it that way.

The subject of this motion to instruct is a long-running program designed to support safety programs. While we have had votes on this on the floor and in committee over the years, it has never been a particularly controversial program, even though the gentleman from Rhode Island has consistently been against it from the start. But the point is that in both the House and the Senate bills this year, there are provisions dealing with these programs. We come to some resolution every year, and for 55 straight years the conference report has gotten signed into law.

I would like to correct one point, Mr. Speaker. I do not believe that the Army is opposed to this program. As a matter of fact, both Mr. ROGERS and I have talked to the Army about this, and they have not expressed in any sense that they are opposed to it. They were waiting to see what direction they are given, and they are happy to go implement that.

Mr. Speaker, in recent weeks, our country has been buffeted by a number of tragedies: hurricanes; of course, wildfires going on now in the West. And the horrible, horrific murders in Las Vegas are much on our minds, as are the victims and the whole communities.

It is important to take time and to learn what that investigation yields so that we can, hopefully, prevent it from happening in the future.

I just want to point out that there is nothing, whether these provisions stay or go, that is going to have any effect on an event like we just saw in Las Vegas. As a matter of fact, in the history of this program, I know of no single instance where one of these weapons that has been disposed of for gun safety programs has been used improperly. As a matter of fact, most of these weapons go up on a mantle somewhere. They are collectors items. So it would be inappropriate, in my opinion, to try to tie that horrible tragedy in Las Vegas, or others, to these particular programs.

That leads me to the last point I would like to make, Mr. Speaker, and

it is similar to the first. On a bipartisan basis, this House and, indeed, this Congress, come together to support the men and women who risk their lives to defend us. The world is getting more dangerous, and, unfortunately—the fault of both parties in both the executive and legislative branches of government—we cut our military too much. We are seeing the effects of that through declining readiness, through increasing accidents, and a whole variety of things where the fruits of that neglect is becoming more apparent.

But I think it is crucial, as we begin to rebuild and repair our military, that we not let other agendas, other issues, impair our ability to do so. I am concerned, for example, that some Republicans say: Oh, yeah, I will increase funding for defense, as long as you can cut that money in other parts of the budget.

I am concerned when Democrats say: Oh, I am for increasing defense, as long as you increase other parts of the budget.

I am concerned when anybody brings any other agenda, any other issue, that impedes our ability to support the men and women who serve our Nation. We ought to do our best to support them on the basis of those issues alone and let other debates, whatever they may be, stand on their own as well.

As I mentioned, Mr. Speaker, motions to instruct are, of course, non-binding. I think, in this case, the better vote is to vote “no.” There are provisions dealing with this in both the House and the Senate bill. I hope that we can come to a reasonable conclusion on these provisions and the whole bill. But the goal is to defend the country and to support the men and women who serve. We can never be distracted from that goal.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to instruct.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess for a period of less than 15 minutes.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 37 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1440

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WEBER of Texas) at 2 o'clock and 40 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

The motion to instruct on H.R. 2810;

The motion to permit closed conference meetings on H.R. 2810, if offered;

The motion to suspend the rules on H. Res. 569;

The motion to recommit on S. 585; and

Passage of S. 585, if ordered.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 2810, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to instruct on the bill (H.R. 2810) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, offered by the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN), on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 184, nays 237, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 564]

YEAS—184

Adams	Clark (MA)	Ellison
Aguilar	Clarke (NY)	Engel
Barragán	Clay	Españillat
Bass	Cleaver	Esty (CT)
Beatty	Cohen	Evans
Bera	Connolly	Foster
Beyer	Conyers	Frankel (FL)
Bishop (GA)	Correa	Fudge
Blumenauer	Costa	Gabbard
Blunt Rochester	Courtney	Gallo
Bonamici	Crist	Garamendi
Boyle, Brendan	Crowley	Gomez
F.	Cummings	Gonzalez (TX)
Brady (PA)	Davis (CA)	Gottheimer
Brown (MD)	Davis, Danny	Green, Al
Brownley (CA)	DeFazio	Green, Gene
Bustos	DeGette	Grijalva
Butterfield	Delaney	Gutiérrez
Capuano	DeLauro	Hanabusa
Carbajal	DelBene	Hastings
Cárdenas	Demings	Heck
Carson (IN)	DeSaulnier	Higgins (NY)
Cartwright	Deutch	Himes
Castor (FL)	Dingell	Hoyer
Castro (TX)	Doggett	Jackson Lee
Chu, Judy	Doyle, Michael	Jayapal
Cicilline	F.	Jeffries

Johnson (GA) McGovern
 Johnson, E. B. McNerney
 Jones Meeks
 Kaptur Meng
 Keating Moore
 Kelly (IL) Moulton
 Kennedy Murphy (FL)
 Khanna Nadler
 Kihuen Napolitano
 Kildee Neal
 Kilmer Nolan
 Krishnamoorthi Norcross
 Kuster (NH) O'Halleran
 Langevin O'Rourke
 Larsen (WA) Pallone
 Larson (CT) Panetta
 Lawson (FL) Pascarell
 Lee Payne
 Levin Pelosi
 Lewis (GA) Perlmutter
 Lieu, Ted Peters
 Lipinski Pingree
 Loeb sack Pocan
 Lofgren Polis
 Lowenthal Price (NC)
 Lowey Quigley
 Lujan Grisham, M. Raskin
 Luján, Ben Ray Rice (NY)
 Lynch Richmond
 Maloney, Carolyn B. Rosen
 Maloney, Sean Ruiz
 Matsui Ruppertsberger
 McCollum Rush
 McEachin Ryan (OH)
 Sánchez Sánchez

NAYS—237

Abraham Dunn
 Aderholt Emmer
 Allen Estes (KS)
 Amash Parenthold
 Amodei Faso
 Arrington Ferguson
 Babin Fitzpatrick
 Bacon Fleischmann
 Banks (IN) Flores
 Barletta Fortenberry
 Barr Foss
 Barton Franks (AZ)
 Bergman Frelinghuysen
 Biggs Gaetz
 Bilirakis Gallagher
 Bishop (MI) Garrett
 Bishop (UT) Gianforte
 Blackburn Gibbs
 Blum Gohmert
 Bost Goodlatte
 Brady (TX) Gosar
 Brat Gowdy
 Brooks (AL) Granger
 Brooks (IN) Graves (GA)
 Buchanan Graves (LA)
 Buck Graves (MO)
 Bucshon Griffith
 Budd Grothman
 Burgess Guthrie
 Byrne Handel
 Calvert Harper
 Carter (GA) Harris
 Carter (TX) Hartzler
 Chabot Hensarling
 Cheney Herrera Beutler
 Coffman Hice, Jody B.
 Cole Higgins (LA)
 Collins (GA) Hill
 Collins (NY) Holding
 Comer Hollingsworth
 Comstock Hudson
 Conaway Huizenga
 Cook Hultgren
 Cooper Hunter
 Costello (PA) Hurd
 Cramer Issa
 Crawford Jenkins (KS)
 Cuellar Jenkins (WV)
 Culberson Johnson (LA)
 Curbelo (FL) Johnson (OH)
 Davidson Johnson, Sam
 Davis, Rodney Joyce (OH)
 Denham Katko
 Dent Kelly (MS)
 DeSantis Kelly (PA)
 DesJarlais Kind
 Diaz-Balart King (IA)
 Donovan King (NY)
 Duffy Kinzinger
 Duncan (SC) Knight
 Duncan (TN) Kustoff (TN)

Sarbanes
 Schakowsky
 Schiff
 Schneider
 Scott (VA)
 Scott, David
 Serrano
 Sewell (AL)
 Shea-Porter
 Sherman
 Sires
 Slaughter
 Smith (WA)
 Soto
 Speier
 Suozzi
 Swalwell (CA)
 Takano
 Thompson (MS)
 Titus
 Tonko
 Torres
 Tsongas
 Vargas
 Veasey
 Vela
 Velázquez
 Visclosky
 Walz
 Wasserman
 Waters, Maxine
 Watson Coleman
 Welch
 Wilson (FL)
 Yarmuth

Roskam
 Ross
 Rothfus
 Rouzer
 Royce (CA)
 Russell
 Rutherford
 Sanford
 Scalise
 Schrader
 Schweikert
 Scott, Austin
 Sensenbrenner
 Sessions
 Shimkus
 Shuster
 Simpson
 Sinema
 Smith (MO)

Black
 Bridenstine
 Clyburn
 Eshoo

NOT VOTING—12

Walden
 Walker
 Walorski
 Walters, Mimi
 Weber (TX)
 Webster (FL)
 Wenstrup
 Westerman
 Williams
 Wilson (SC)
 Wittman
 Womack
 Woodall
 Yoder
 Yoho
 Young (AK)
 Young (IA)
 Zeldin

Marino
 Palazzo
 Renacci
 Thompson (CA)

□ 1508

Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. KIND, Mrs. HARTZLER, Messrs. HOLLINGSWORTH, ROHRBACHER, DENHAM, DENT, and COSTELLO of Pennsylvania changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Messrs. GENE GREEN of Texas and LOEBSACK changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion to instruct was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MOTION TO CLOSE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS ON H.R. 2810, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 12 of rule XXII, I move that meetings of the conference between the House and the Senate on H.R. 2810 may be closed to the public at such times as classified national security information may be discussed, provided that any sitting Member of Congress shall be entitled to attend any meeting of the conference.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule XXII, the motion is not debatable, and the yeas and nays are ordered.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 414, nays 8, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 565]

YEAS—414

Abraham
 Adams
 Aderholt
 Aguilar
 Allen
 Amodei
 Arrington
 Babin
 Bacon
 Banks (IN)
 Barletta
 Barr
 Barragán
 Barton
 Bass
 Beatty
 Bera

Bergman
 Beyer
 Biggs
 Bilirakis
 Bishop (GA)
 Bishop (MI)
 Bishop (UT)
 Blackburn
 Blum
 Blunt Rochester
 Bonamici
 Bost
 Boyle, Brendan
 F.
 Brady (PA)
 Brady (TX)
 Brat

Brooks (AL)
 Brooks (IN)
 Brown (MD)
 Brownley (CA)
 Buchanan
 Buck
 Bucshon
 Budd
 Burgess
 Bustos
 Butterfield
 Byrne
 Capuano
 Carbajal
 Cárdenas
 Carson (IN)

Carter (GA)
 Carter (TX)
 Cartwright
 Castor (FL)
 Castro (TX)
 Chabot
 Cheney
 Chu, Judy
 Cicilline
 Clark (MA)
 Clarke (NY)
 Clay
 Cleaver
 Coffman
 Cohen
 Cole
 Collins (GA)
 Collins (NY)
 Comer
 Comstock
 Conaway
 Connolly
 Conyers
 Cook
 Cooper
 Correa
 Costa
 Costello (PA)
 Courtney
 Cramer
 Crawford
 Crist
 Crowley
 Cuellar
 Culberson
 Cummings
 Curbelo (FL)
 Davidson
 Davis (CA)
 Davis, Danny
 Davis, Rodney
 DeGette
 Delaney
 DeLauro
 DelBene
 Demings
 Denham
 Dent
 DeSantis
 DeSaulnier
 DesJarlais
 Deutch
 Diaz-Balart
 Dingell
 Doggett
 Donovan
 Doyle, Michael
 F.
 Duffy
 Duncan (SC)
 Duncan (TN)
 Dunn
 Ellison
 Emmer
 Engel
 Espallat
 Estes (KS)
 Esty (CT)
 Evans
 Farenthold
 Faso
 Ferguson
 Fitzpatrick
 Fleischmann
 Flores
 Fortenberry
 Foster
 Foss
 Frankel (FL)
 Franks (AZ)
 Frelinghuysen
 Fudge
 Gabbard
 Gaetz
 Gallagher
 Gallego
 Garamendi
 Garrett
 Gianforte
 Gibbs
 Gohmert
 Gomez
 Gonzalez (TX)
 Goodlatte
 Gosar
 Gottheimer
 Gowdy
 Granger
 Graves (GA)

Graves (LA)
 Graves (MO)
 Green, Al
 Green, Gene
 Griffith
 Grothman
 Guthrie
 Gutiérrez
 Hanabusa
 Handel
 Harper
 Harris
 Hartzler
 Hastings
 Heck
 Hensarling
 Herrera Beutler
 Hice, Jody B.
 Higgins (LA)
 Higgins (NY)
 Hill
 Himes
 Holding
 Hollingsworth
 Hoyer
 Hudson
 Huizenga
 Hultgren
 Hunter
 Hurd
 Issa
 Jackson Lee
 Jayapal
 Jeffries
 Jenkins (KS)
 Jenkins (WV)
 Johnson (GA)
 Johnson (LA)
 Johnson (OH)
 Johnson, E. B.
 Johnson, Sam
 Jordan
 Joyce (OH)
 Kaptur
 Katko
 Keating
 Kelly (IL)
 Kelly (MS)
 Kelly (PA)
 Kennedy
 Khanna
 Kihuen
 Kildee
 Kilmer
 Kind
 King (IA)
 King (NY)
 Kinzinger
 Knight
 Krishnamoorthi
 Kuster (NH)
 Kustoff (TN)
 LaHood
 LaMalfa
 Lamborn
 Lance
 Langevin
 Larsen (WA)
 Larson (CT)
 Latta
 Lawson (FL)
 Lee
 Levin
 Lewis (GA)
 Lewis (MN)
 Lieu, Ted
 Lipinski
 LoBiondo
 Loudermilk
 Love
 Lowenthal
 Lowey
 Lucas
 Luetkemeyer
 Lujan Grisham, M.
 Lynch
 Luján, Ben Ray
 MacArthur
 Maloney
 Carolyn B.
 Maloney, Sean
 Marchant
 Marshall
 Matsui
 McCarthy

McCaul
 McClintock
 McCollum
 McEachin
 McGovern
 McHenry
 McKinley
 McMorris
 Rodgers
 McNeerney
 McSally
 Meadows
 Meehan
 Meeks
 Meng
 Messer
 Mitchell
 Moolenaar
 Mooney (WV)
 Moore
 Moulton
 Mullin
 Murphy (FL)
 Murphy (PA)
 Nadler
 Napolitano
 Neal
 Newhouse
 Noem
 Nolan
 Norcross
 Norman
 Nunes
 O'Halleran
 O'Rourke
 Olson
 Pallone
 Palmer
 Panetta
 Pascarell
 Paulsen
 Payne
 Pearce
 Pelosi
 Perlmutter
 Perry
 Peters
 Peterson
 Pingree
 Pittenger
 Pocan
 Poe (TX)
 Poliquin
 Polis
 Posey
 Price (NC)
 Quigley
 Raskin
 Ratcliffe
 Reed
 Reichert
 Rice (NY)
 Rice (SC)
 Richmond
 Roby
 Roe (TN)
 Rogers (AL)
 Rogers (KY)
 Rohrabacher
 Rokita
 Rooney, Francis
 Rooney, Thomas
 J.
 Ros-Lehtinen
 Rosen
 Roskam
 Ross
 Rothfus
 Rouzer
 Roybal-Allard
 Royce (CA)
 Ruiz
 Ruppertsberger
 Rush
 Russell
 Rutherford
 Ryan (OH)
 Sánchez
 Sarbanes
 Scalise
 Schakowsky
 Schiff
 Schneider
 Schrader
 Schweikert
 Scott (VA)
 Mast
 Scott, Austin
 Scott, David
 Sensenbrenner